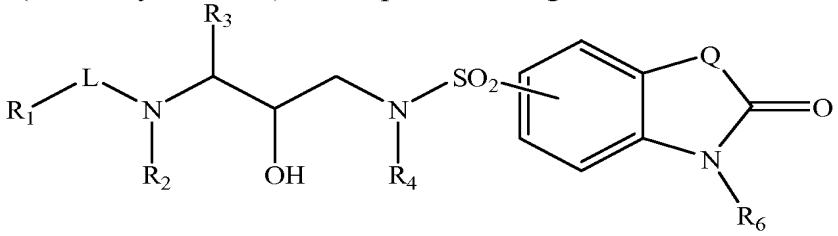
Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the captioned application.

1. (Currently Amened) A compound having the formula

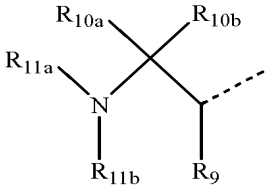


(I)

an *N*-oxide, salt, stereoisomeric form, racemic mixture, prodrug, or ester ~~or metabolite~~ thereof, wherein

R_1 and R_8 are, each independently, hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, arylC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkylC_{1-6}alkyl, aryl, Het^1, Het^1C_{1-6}alkyl, Het^2, Het^2C_{1-6}alkyl;

R_1 may also be a radical of formula



(II)

wherein

R_9, R_{10a} and R_{10b} are, each independently, hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyloxycarbonyl, carboxyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- or di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminocarbonyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, C_{2-6}alkynyl or C_{1-6}alkyl optionally substituted with aryl, Het^1, Het^2, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{1-4}alkyloxycarbonyl, carboxyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- or di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminocarbonyl, aminosulfonyl, C_{1-4}alkyl$S(O)_t$, hydroxy, cyano, halogen or amino optionally mono- or disubstituted where the substituents are each independently selected from C_{1-6}alkyl, aryl, arylC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkylC_{1-4}alkyl, Het^1, Het^2, Het^1C_{1-4}alkyl and Het^2C_{1-4}alkyl; wherein R_9, R_{10a} and the carbon atoms to which they are attached may also form a C_{3-7}cycloalkyl radical; when L is -O–C_{1-6}alkanediyl-C(=O)- or -NR_8-C_{1-6}alkanediyl-C(=O)-, then R_9 may also be oxo;

R_{11a} is hydrogen, C_{2-6}alkenyl, C_{2-6}alkynyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, aryl, aminocarbonyl optionally mono- or disubstituted, aminoC_{1-4}alkylcarbonyloxy optionally mono- or disubstituted, C_{1-4}alkyloxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl,

Het^1oxycarbonyl, Het^2oxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonylC_{1-4}alkyl, arylC_{1-4}alkyloxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}alkylcarbonyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkylcarbonyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkylC_{1-4}alkyloxycarbonyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkylcarbonyloxy, carboxylC_{1-4}alkylcarbonyloxy, C_{1-4}alkylcarbonyloxy, arylC_{1-4}alkyl-carbonyloxy, arylcarbonyloxy, aryloxycarbonyloxy, Het^1carbonyl, Het^1carbonyloxy, Het^1C_{1-4}alkyloxycarbonyl, Het^2carbonyloxy, Het^2C_{1-4}alkylcarbonyloxy, Het^2C_{1-4}alkyloxycarbonyloxy or C_{1-6}alkyl optionally substituted with aryl, aryloxy, Het^2 or hydroxy; wherein the substituents on the amino groups are each independently selected from C_{1-6}alkyl, aryl, arylC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkylC_{1-4}alkyl, Het^1, Het^2, Het^1C_{1-4}alkyl and Het^2C_{1-4}alkyl;

R_{11b} is hydrogen, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, C_{2-6}alkynyl, aryl, Het^1, Het^2 or C_{1-6}alkyl optionally substituted with halogen, hydroxy, C_{1-4}alkyl$S(=O)_t$, aryl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, Het^1, Het^2, amino optionally mono- or disubstituted where the substituents are each independently selected from C_{1-4}alkyl, aryl, arylC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkylC_{1-4}alkyl, Het^1, Het^2, Het^1C_{1-4}alkyl and Het^2C_{1-4}alkyl;

wherein R_{11b} may be linked to the remainder of the molecule via a sulfonyl group;

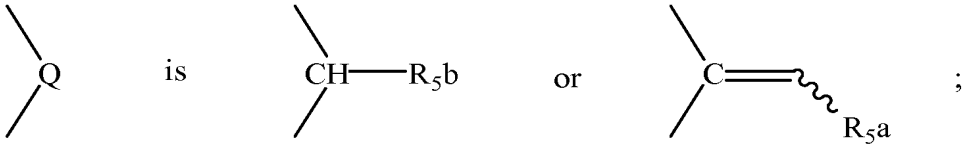
t is, each independently, zero, 1 or 2;

R_2 is hydrogen or C_{1-6}alkyl;

L is -C(=O)-, -O-C(=O)-, -NR_8-C(=O)-, -O–C_{1-6}alkanediyl-C(=O)-, -NR_8-C_{1-6}alkanediyl-C(=O)-, -$S(=O)_2$-, -O-$S(=O)_2$-, -NR_8-$S(=O)_2$, wherein either the C(=O) group or the $S(=O)_2$ group is attached to the NR_2 moiety; and wherein each independently the C_{1-6}alkanediyl moiety may be optionally substituted with hydroxy, aryl, Het^1 or Het^2;

R_3 is C_{1-6}alkyl, aryl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkylC_{1-4}alkyl, or arylC_{1-4}alkyl;

R_4 is hydrogen, C_{1-4}alkyloxycarbonyl, carboxyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- or di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminocarbonyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, C_{2-6}alkynyl or C_{1-6}alkyl optionally substituted with one or more substituents each independently selected from aryl, Het^1, Het^2, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{1-4}alkyloxycarbonyl, carboxyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- or di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminocarbonyl, aminosulfonyl, mono- or di(C_{1-4}alkyl)aminosulfonyl, C_{1-4}alkyl$S(=O)_t$, hydroxy, cyano, halogen or amino optionally mono- or disubstituted where the substituents are each independently selected from C_{1-4}alkyl, aryl, arylC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkylC_{1-4}alkyl, Het^1, Het^2, Het^1C_{1-4}alkyl and Het^2C_{1-4}alkyl;



R_{5a} and R_{5b} are, each independently, selected from hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, C_{2-6}alkynyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, aryl, Het^1, Het^2; wherein each of the substituents selected from C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, C_{2-6}alkynyl or C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, are optionally substituted on one or more carbon atoms with a substituent independently selected from the group consisting of amino, mono- or di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, hydroxy, carboxyl, oxo, mercapto, halogen, cyanogen, nitro, C_{1-4}alkyloxy, C_{1-4}alkylcarbonyl, C_{1-4}alkylcarbonyloxy, C_{1-4}alkyloxycarbonyl, aryl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, Het^1, Het^2, C_{1-4}alkylcarbonyloxy, C_{1-4}alkyloxycarbonyl;

R_6 is hydrogen or C_{1-6}alkyl optionally substituted on one ore more carbon atoms with one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of amino, mono- or di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, hydroxy, mercapto, oxo, cyanogen, nitro, halogen, carboxyl C_{1-4}alkyloxy, C_{1-4}alkylcarbonyl, C_{1-4}alkylcarbonyloxy, C_{1-4}alkyloxycarbonyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, aryl, Het^1, Het^2; wherein each C_{1-4}alkyl may optionally be substituted by amino, mono- or di(C_{1-4}alkyl)amino, hydroxy, mercapto, oxo, cyanogen, nitro, halogen, carboxyl.

2. (Original) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R_1 hydrogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{2-6}alkenyl, arylC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, C_{3-7}cycloalkylC_{1-6}alkyl, aryl, Het^1, Het^1C_{1-6}alkyl, Het^2, Het^2C_{1-6}alkyl; wherein Het^1 is a monocyclic or bicyclic heterocycle having 5 to 10 ring members, which contains one or more heteroatom ring members each independently selected from nitrogen, oxygen or sulfur and which is optionally substituted on one or more carbon atoms.

3. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein L is -O–C_{1-6}alkanediyl-C(=O)-.

4. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein
R_{5a} and R_{5b} are each independently selected from the group consisting of aryl, Het^1, Het^2 or C_{1-6}alkyl optionally substituted on one or more atoms with a substituent independently selected from the group consisting of amino, hydroxy, carboxyl, oxo, sulfhydryl, halogen, nitro, cyanogen, C_{1-4}alkyl, aminoC_{1-4}alkyl, hydroxyC_{1-4}alkyl, haloC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkyloxy, C_{1-}

$_4$alkylcarbonyl, C_{1-4}alkylcarbonyloxy, C_{1-4}alkyloxycarbonyl, C_{1-4}alkylcarbonyloxyC_{1-4}alkyl, C_{1-4}alkyloxycarbonylC_{1-4}alkyl, aryl, C_{3-7}cycloalkyl, Het^1 and Het^2; and

R_6 is hydrogen.

5. (Previously Presented) A compound selected from the group consisting of:

(1-Benzyl-2-hydroxy-3-{isobutyl-[2-oxo-3-(1H-pyrrol-2-ylmethylene)-2,3-dihydro-1H-indole-5-sulfonyl]-amino}-propyl)-carbamic acid hexahydro-furo[2,3-b]furan-3-yl ester

(1-Benzyl-2-hydroxy-3-{isobutyl-[3-(5-methyl-furan-2-ylmethylene)-2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-indole-5-sulfonyl]-amino}-propyl)-carbamic acid hexahydro-furo[2,3-b]furan-3-yl ester

(1-Benzyl-2-hydroxy-3-{isobutyl-[3-(5-methyl-thiophen-2-ylmethylene)-2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-indole-5-sulfonyl]-amino}-propyl)-carbamic acid hexahydro-furo[2,3-b]furan-3-yl ester

(1-Benzyl-2-hydroxy-3-{isobutyl-[3-(1-methyl-1H-pyrrol-2-ylmethylene)-2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-indole-5-sulfonyl]-amino}-propyl)-carbamic acid hexahydro-furo[2,3-b]furan-3-yl ester

(1-Benzyl-3-{[3-(2-ethyl-butylidene)-2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-indole-5-sulfonyl]-isobutyl-amino}-2-hydroxy-propyl)-carbamic acid hexahydro-furo[2,3-b]furan-3-yl ester

{1-Benzyl-2-hydroxy-3-[isobutyl-(3-isobutylidene-2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-indole-5-sulfonyl)-amino]-propyl}-carbamic acid hexahydro-furo[2,3-b]furan-3-yl ester

{1-Benzyl-3-[(3-furan-2-ylmethylene-2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-indole-5-sulfonyl)-isobutyl-amino]-2-hydroxy-propyl}-carbamic acid hexahydro-furo[2,3-b]furan-3-yl ester

(1-Benzyl-2-hydroxy-3-{isobutyl-[3-(4-methoxy-benzylidene)-2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-indole-5-sulfonyl]-amino}-propyl)-carbamic acid hexahydro-furo[2,3-b]furan-3-yl ester

(1-Benzyl-2-hydroxy-3-{isobutyl-[2-oxo-3-(4-pyridin-2-yl-benzylidene)-2,3-dihydro-1H-indole-5-sulfonyl]-amino}-propyl)-carbamic acid hexahydro-furo[2,3-b]furan-3-yl ester

(1-Benzyl-2-hydroxy-3-{[3-(4-hydroxy-3,5-dimethyl-benzylidene)-2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-indole-5-sulfonyl]-isobutyl-amino}-propyl)-carbamic acid hexahydro-furo[2,3-b]furan-3-yl ester

(1-Benzyl-3-{[3-(4-dimethylamino-benzylidene)-2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-indole-5-sulfonyl]-isobutyl-amino}-2-hydroxy-propyl)-carbamic acid hexahydro-furo[2,3-b]furan-3-yl ester

(1-Benzyl-2-hydroxy-3-{[3-(1H-indol-2-ylmethylene)-2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-indole-5-sulfonyl]-isobutyl-amino}-propyl)-carbamic acid hexahydro-furo[2,3-b]furan-3-yl ester

Acetic acid 5-(5-{[3-(hexahydro-furo[2,3-b]furan-3-yloxycarbonylamino)-2-hydroxy-4-phenyl-butyl]-isobutyl-sulfamoyl}-2-oxo-1,2-dihydro-indol-3-ylidenemethyl)-furan-2-ylmethyl ester

{1-Benzyl-3-[(3-benzylidene-2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-indole-5-sulfonyl)-isobutyl-amino]-2-hydroxy-propyl}-carbamic acid hexahydro-furo[2,3-b]furan-3-yl ester

(1-Benzyl-3-{[3-(4-diethylamino-3-hydroxy-benzylidene)-2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1H-indole-5-sulfonyl]-isobutyl-amino}-2-hydroxy-propyl)-carbamic acid hexahydro-furo[2,3-b]furan-3-yl ester

(1-Benzyl-2-hydroxy-3-{[3-(2-hydrox
y-benzylidene)-2-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1H
-indole-5-sulfonyl]-isobutyl-amino}
-propyl)-carbamic acid hexahydro-fu
ro[2,3-b]furan-3-yl ester

(1-Benzyl-2-hydroxy-3-{isobutyl-[3-
(2-methoxy-benzylidene)-2-oxo-2,3-d
ihydro-1H-indole-5-sulfonyl]-amino}
-propyl)-carbamic acid hexahydro-fu
ro[2,3-b]furan-3-yl ester

(1-Benzyl-2-hydroxy-3-{[3-(4-hydrox
y-3-methoxy-benzylidene)-2-oxo-2,3-
dihydro-1H-indole-5-sulfonyl]-isobu
tyl-amino}-propyl)-carbamic acid he
xahydro-furo[2,3-b]furan-3-yl ester

(1-Benzyl-3-{isobutyl-[3-(5-methyl-
furan-2-ylmethylene)-2-oxo-2,3-dihy
dro-1H-indole-5-sulfonyl]-amino}-2-
phosphonooxy-propyl)-carbamic acid
hexahydro-furo[2,3-b]furan-3-yl est
er

4-(5-{[3-(Hexahydro-furo[2,3-b]fura
n-3-yloxycarbonylamino)-2-hydroxy-4
-phenyl-butyl]-isobutyl-sulfamoyl}-
2-oxo-1,2-dihydro-indol-3-ylideneme
thyl)-benzoic acid

a *N*-oxide or a salt thereof, or a stereoisomeric form thereof.

6. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising an effective amount of at least one compound as claimed in claim 1, and a pharmaceutically tolerable excipient.

7. (Withdrawn) A method of inhibiting a protease of a multi-drug resistant retrovirus in a mammal infected with said retrovirus, comprising administering a protease inhibiting amount of a compound according to claim 1 to said mammal in need thereof.

8. (Withdrawn) A method of treating or combating infection or disease associated with multi-drug resistant retrovirus infection in a mammal, comprising administering an effective amount of at least one compound according to claim 1 to said mammal.

9. (Withdrawn) A method of inhibiting multi-drug resistant retroviral replication, comprising contacting a retrovirus with an effective amount of at least one compound according to claim .

10. (Cancelled).

11. (Cancelled).

12. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising an effective amount of at least one compound as claimed in claim 2 and a pharmaceutically tolerable excipient.

13. (Withdrawn) A method of inhibiting a protease of a multi-drug resistant retrovirus in a mammal infected with said retrovirus, comprising administering a protease inhibiting amount of a compound according to clam 2 to said mammal in need thereof.

14. (Withdrawn) A method of treating or combating infection or disease associated with multi-drug resistant retrovirus infection in a mammal, comprising administering an effective amount of at least one compound according to claim 2 to said mammal.

15. (Withdrawn) A method of inhibiting multi-drug resistant retroviral replication, comprising contacting a retrovirus with an effective amount of at least one compound according to claim 2.

16. (Withdrawn) A pharmaceutical composition, comprising an effective amount of at least one compound as claimed in claim 5 and a pharmaceutically tolerable excipient.

17. (Withdrawn) A method of inhibiting a protease of a multi-drug resistant retrovirus in a mammal infected with said retrovirus, comprising administering a protease

inhibiting amount of a compound according to clam 5 to said mammal in need thereof.

18. (Withdrawn) A method of treating or combating infection or disease associated with multi-drug resistant retrovirus infection in a mammal, comprising administering an effective amount of at least one compound according to claim 5 to said mammal.

19. (Withdrawn) A method of inhibiting multi-drug resistant retroviral replication, comprising contacting a retrovirus with an effective amount of at least one compound according to claim 5.